

Appl. No. 10/645,264
Amdt. dated November 11, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 20, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A retractable awning for mounting on a support surface, said awning comprising in combination:

an awning sheet with inner and outer edges and wherein the outer edge is movable toward and away from said support surface and said inner edge is operatively secured to the support surface,

a roll bar secured to one of said inner and outer edges and about which the awning sheet can be wrapped and unwrapped,

a pair of scissors type support structures anchored to said support surface at one end and operatively to opposite ends of said outer edge of said awning sheet at another end and adapted to extend away from said support surface in an extended position of said awning and be adjacent to the support surface in a retracted position of the awning, said scissors-type support structures each including a pair of arms operatively secured to said support surface, and a pair of vertical guide members secured to said support surface with one of said arms being movably supported on said guide member.

2. (original) The awning of claim 1 wherein at least one of said support structures includes a gas spring operatively anchored to said support surface and biasing the associated support structure away from said support surface.

3. (original) The awning of claim 2 wherein said support structures include two pair of parallel arms with at least one of said arms being adjustable in length.

4. (original) The awning of claim 3 wherein said roll bar is secured to the outer edge of said awning sheet and an outer end of said support structures are operatively connected to opposite ends of said roll bar.

5. (original) The awning of claim 4 wherein the opposite ends of said roll bar are connected to the outer ends of said support structure with a universal mounting system.

6. (original) The awning of claim 5 wherein said universal mounting system includes a mounting shaft supported in a loose fit spacer system between an associated end of the roll bar and the outer end of the associated support structure.

7. (original) The awning of claim 4 further including a motor mounted on at least one end of said roll bar to selectively rotate the roll bar about its longitudinal axis.

8. (original) The awning of claim 7 wherein at least one of said support structures includes a battery for powering said motor.

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9. (canceled) The awning of claim 8 wherein each of said support structures includes a vertical mounting rail on said support surface and wherein said battery is mounted in an associated vertical rail.

10. (currently amended) The awning of claim [[3]] 13 wherein each support structure includes an inner brace arm having an inner end pivotally connected to said support surface, an outer brace arm having an inner end pivotally connected to an outer end of said inner brace arm and an outer end operatively connected to one end of said roll bar, an extendable brace arm vertically slidably connected to said support surface at an inner end and having an outer end, an auxiliary brace arm having an inner end pivotally connected to said outer end of the extendable brace arm and an outer end pivotally connected to said outer brace arm at an intermediate location along the length of the outer brace arm.

11. (original) The awning of claim 10 wherein said gas spring has an inner end anchored to said support surface and an outer end connected to the inner end of said outer brace arm.

12. (original) The awning of claim 1 wherein said roll bar is operatively connected to said another end of said support structures and further including gear housings interconnecting the other end of said support structures to an associated end of said roll bar, said support structure having a longitudinal axis when retracted and wherein said gear housing is laterally offset from said longitudinal axis.

13. (new) A retractable awning for mounting on a support surface, said awning comprising in combination:

an awning sheet with inner and outer edges and wherein the outer edge is movable toward and away from said support surface and said inner edge is operatively secured to the support surface, a roll bar secured to one of said inner and outer edges and about which the awning sheet can be wrapped and unwrapped, a pair of scissors-type support structures anchored to said support surface at one end and operatively to opposite ends of said outer edge of said awning sheet at another end and adapted to extend away from said support surface in an extended position of said awning and be adjacent to the support surface in a retracted position of the awning,

wherein at least one of said support structures includes a gas spring operatively anchored to said support surface and biasing the support structure away from said support surface,

wherein said support structures include two pairs of parallel arms with at least one of said arms being adjustable in length,

wherein said roll bar is secured to the outer edge of said awning sheet and an outer end of said support structures are operatively connected to opposite ends of said roll bar,

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further including a motor mounted on at least one end of said roll bar to selectively rotate the roll bar about its longitudinal axis and wherein at least one of said support structures includes a battery for powering said motor, and

wherein each of said support structures includes a vertical mounting rail on said support surface and wherein said battery is mounted in an associated vertical rail.

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